

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.
Currently, claims 14-28 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter:

The Office Action indicated that claims 15 and 16 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By this Amendment, claim 15 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 14. Claim 16 remains dependent from claim 15. Claims 15 and 16 are therefore allowable.

Claim 17 depends from now allowable claim 16. Claim 17 is therefore allowable.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claims 14 and 17-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Hibbard (U.S. '054). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Because claim 17 depends from allowable claim 16, claim 17 is allowable. Applicant thus respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

For a reference to anticipate a claim, each element must be found, either expressly or under principles of inherency, in the reference. Applicant respectfully submits that Hibbard fails to disclose each element of the claimed invention. For example, Applicant submits that Hibbard fails to disclose both a pre-packaged stator

core section and a manually stacked stator core section as required by independent claim 14 and claims 18-19 which depend therefrom.

Col. 2, lines 54 *et seq.* of Hibbard states:

“The stator core laminations are held in the stator frame 1 by suitable means such as dovetail keys 5 secured to transverse ribs 6 in the stator frame. The core illustrated in the drawings is built up of segmental laminations each of a length equal to twice the distance between the keys, and alternate segments are staggered so as to break joints between adjacent layers.”

While Figs. 1 and 2 and the above portion of Hibbard discloses a stator core 2 having segmental laminations, stator core 2 does not disclose having the following different types of stator core sections: (1) a pre-packaged stator core section and (2) a manually stacked stator core section.¹

The Office Action fails to specifically allege how Hibbard discloses both a pre-packaged stator core section and a manually stacked stator core section. Accordingly, if the next Office Action maintains the §102 rejection over Hibbard, Applicant respectfully requests clarification regarding how Hibbard allegedly discloses these claimed features.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 14 and 17-19 are not anticipated by Hibbard and respectfully requests that the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

¹ Applicant does not mean to imply that a pre-packaged stator core section is *per se* novel. See, for example, page 1, line 26 to page 2, line 7 of the specification and U.S. Patent No. 4,200,854 (DeLaurentis *et al.*).

New Claims:

New claims 20-28 have been added to provide additional protection for the invention. Since claims 20 and 21 depend from allowable claim 15, claims 20 and 21 are allowable. New claims 22-28 require, *inter alia*, a first stator core section including a lamination having a first dovetail slot and a second stator core section including a lamination having a second dovetail slot, the second dovetail slot having a cross-sectional area which is smaller than a cross-sectional area of the first dovetail slot. Applicant therefore believes that claims 22-28 are allowable.

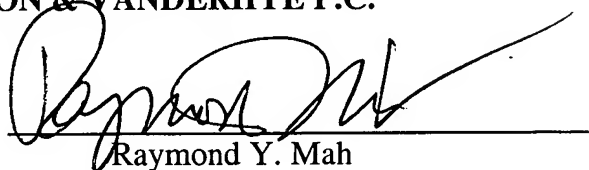
Conclusion:

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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